

FEB 04 2005

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)			Docket No. 133816-1
Applicant(s): Yeager et al.			
Application No. 10/678,249	Filing Date 10/3/2003	Examiner Truong, Duc	Group Art Unit 1711
Invention: COMPOSITION COMPRISING FUNCTIONALIZED POLY(ARYLENE ETHER) AND ETHYLENE-ALKYL (METH)ACRYLATE COPOLYMER, METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF, AND ARTICLES			
<p>I hereby certify that this <u>Response to Restriction Requirement (3 pgs)</u> (Identify type of correspondence)</p> <p>is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. <u>703-872-9306</u>)</p> <p>on <u>February 4, 2005</u> (Date)</p> <p><u>Rebecca L. Blake</u> (Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)</p> <p><u>Rebecca L. Blake</u> (Signature)</p> <p>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</p>			

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/678,249
Applicant : Yeager et al.
Filed : 10/03/2003
TC/A.U. : 1711
Examiner : Truong, Duc

Assignee Docket No. : 133816-1
Attorney Docket No. : GP2-0327
Customer No. : 23413

Via Facsimile (703) 872-9306, TC Group 1700
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement mailed January 28, 2005, Applicants elect with traverse Group I, Claims 1-26, 31, and 32, for examination.

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The restriction requirement mailed 1/28/05 required restriction to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-26, 31, and 32, drawn to a composition, classified in class 528, subclass 176;
- II. Claims 27 and 28, drawn to another composition, classified in class 525, subclass 242;
- III. Claims 29 and 30, drawn to a composition / method of making (after reaction), classified in class 525, subclass 132;
- IV. Claims 33 and 35, drawn to a composition comprising the composition of group I and a flame retardant, classified in class 528, subclass 179; and
- V. Claims 34 and 36, drawn to a composition of group IV after reaction, classified in class 525, subclass 255.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the restriction requirement and recategorization into three groups. Applicants recognize that restriction practice seeks to avoid multiple searches. However, MPEP 803 provides that if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. While Applicants would welcome search and examination of the entire application, they respectfully assert, at a minimum, that there are no more than three searchably distinct inventions in the pending claims. Specifically, Applicants assert that Groups I and III can be combined and Groups IV and V can be combined, all without increasing the search burden on the Examiner. Note, in particular, that the searchable compositional limitations of Group I are the same as those of Group III, so these groups of claims may be searched together with no additional burden on the examiner. Similarly, the searchable compositional limitations of Group IV are the same as those of Group V, so these groups of claims may be searched together with no additional burden on the examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the

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restriction requirement and restriction to three new groups corresponding to (1) present groups I and III, (2) present group II, and (3) present groups IV and V.

It is believed that the foregoing remarks fully comply with the Office Action.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 07-0862 maintained by Assignee.

Respectfully submitted,

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